California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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CPUC TO HOLD PRESS EVENT IN L.A. TO DISCUSS GROUNDBREAKING ENERGY STORAGE PROGRESS TO ENSURE RELIABILITY IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO, January 26, 2017 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will hold a press conference and press availability on January 30, 2017, in Los Angeles during the Verdexchange Conference to announce the world's largest deployment of grid battery projects, delivered in a record time of six months, to support the reliability of Southern California's electric grid.

WHEN: Monday, January 30, 2017, 1:45 p.m.

WHERE: The L.A. Hotel Downtown, Bunker Hill Room, 333 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles

WHO:
- CPUC: President Michael Picker
- California Independent System Operator: Stephen Berberich, President and Chief Executive Officer
- San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E): Emily Shults, Vice President of Energy Procurement
- Southern California Edison (SCE): Ron Nichols, President
- AES Energy Storage: John Zahurancik, President

VISUALS: Time lapse video of construction of AES Energy Storage project for SDG&E; poster of project site; b-roll of site

In spring 2016, the California Independent System Operator identified potential electric system reliability risks resulting from the closure of Southern California Gas Company's Aliso Canyon Storage Facility. As a result of these findings, in June 2016 the CPUC moved quickly to approve 100 megawatts of energy storage projects by SCE and SDG&E to address grid reliability needs in Southern California no later than the end of 2016. Over the following six months, SCE and SDG&E worked closely with their technology partners, including AES Energy Storage and Tesla, to deliver a

series of energy storage projects in record time. Among them is the world's largest battery storage project belonging to SDG&E. Currently, SCE and SDG&E have successfully delivered more than 95 megawatts of energy storage to support Southern California grid reliability. Part of the success of storage to date was the ability to bring this large amount of new storage online in less than 9 months to help mitigate electric grid reliability risk due to the closure of Aliso Canyon.

The coordinated effort by the CPUC, the California Independent System Operator, SCE, SDG&E, and the technology partners, AES Energy Storage and Tesla, represents the kind of nimble response and willingness to innovate that are needed to achieve California's clean energy and climate goals. The fact that these entities were able to achieve this success during a time of crisis further highlights the critical value of coordination between the California Independent System Operator and the CPUC on the one hand and the partnerships between SCE, SDG&E, and their energy storage technology partners, AES Energy Storage and Tesla. This achievement also illustrates the great value that energy storage can provide to the grid. Storage is not only enhancing grid reliability during time of grid stress but can also be used to support ever greater quantities of renewable energy. Furthermore, while it can take years to build a new peaking power plant between permitting and environmental analysis, SCE and SDG&E were able deploy energy storage quickly because it's modular, flexible, and has zero-emissions.

The CPUC has adopted an energy storage procurement target of 1,325 megawatts by 2020 for the utilities. The CPUC's energy storage procurement policy is guided by three purposes:
1) The optimization of the grid, including peak reduction, contribution to reliability needs, or deferment of transmission and distribution upgrade investments;
2) The integration of renewable energy; and
3) The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050, per California's goals.

The press availability is taking place during the Verdexchange Conference (www.verdexchange.org), which for the last decade has brought together global private and public sector decision-makers in the clean and green tech space. The conference this year features many of the region's thought leaders on energy storage, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and grid management - including

featuring many state-funded pilot projects that serve the benefit of the state and its investor-owned utilities.

For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

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